



countdown

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NASA Administrator urges participation in Save Award

From the Administrator: Do you have a smart idea for how NASA can trim costs and save taxpayer dollars? Submit your cost-saving initiative to <http://www.SaveAward.gov> for potential inclusion in the president's budget and become the first-ever Securing Americans Value and Efficiency (SAVE) Award winner.

The deadline for submissions is Oct. 14. The winner will meet with President Obama at the White House and have his or her savings initiative incorporated into the FY 2011 budget. In addition, the agency with the most participation in the contest will receive an award. The winner will be announced in November.

— *Charlie Bolden*

■ **Mentors Needed for 2009 Disability Mentoring Day at KSC Nov. 5** — The Education Office and Disability Awareness and Action Working Group, known as DAAWG, are soliciting mentors for students arriving at KSC for the 2009 Disability Mentoring Day. Mentoring opportunities are open to all KSC employees. Call MaryLynn Yust at 867-8292 for the Mentor/Colleague Solicitation Form, which is designed to help match you with a participant who meets your desired requirements. Please have your immediate supervisor sign the form and then you can fax it to MaryLynn at 867-1342. This form should be completed and returned by close of business Oct. 5. If you have questions, please contact Helen Kane at 867-4444 or Helen.P.Kane@nasa.gov.

■ **NASA Science** — NASA's MESSENGER spacecraft is set to make its third and final flyby of the planet Mercury **today**. The encounter is expected to produce hundreds of images of previously unseen terrain and confirm the strange

elliptical shape of Mercury's equator. You can read the full story at: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2009/23sep_mercuryflyby3.htm.

■ **KSC Fitness Center Group Exercise Classes** — A new group fitness class schedule will begin Thursday and run through the end of the year. A variety of classes will be offered, including ZUMBA, Pilates, Yoga, BOSU, Upper Cut, H.A.B.I.T, Extreme Boot Camp, Cardio Pump, Hard Core and Karate.

This quarter will have two new classes: Dance Party and Tai Chi. Dance Party is a unique freestyle class that is a first for the KSC Fitness Center! Once you enter "Club KSC," you'll feel like you've entered a nightclub just for you! Enjoy dancing at your own pace to a variety of genres of music. You will learn easy-to-follow steps to popular line dances to keep you movin' and groovin'! This is the perfect class for all those who don't think they can keep up with the typical aerobics class!

KSC seeks mentors for Disability Mentoring Day

Tai Chi is a form of soft-style martial art that uses gently coordinated movements to improve posture. This class focuses on the meditative aspect of Tai Chi, which can relieve physical effects of stress on the body and mind.

New schedules and class descriptions are available at both the O&C and OSB facilities! For more information, please contact Alycen LaBarca at alycen.m.labarca@nasa.gov.

■ **Reminder** — The KEA will host **KEA-48: Tin Whiskers**, An Empirical Model for Estimating the Probability of Electrical Short Circuits from Tin Whiskers – Part II, Sept. 29 at the KSC Training Auditorium 1–2 p.m. Dr. Karim Courey from the JSC Orbiter Project Office and Clara Wright from the KSC Materials Failure Analysis Laboratory will discuss the research performed at KSC on the subject. They also will discuss the results of the focused ion beam and transmission electron microscopy examination of a polycrystalline tin whisker. This presentation summarizes the research published in IEEE Transactions on Electronics Packaging Manufacturing in January 2009 and presented at the third International Symposium on Tin Whiskers in Lyngby, Denmark, in June 2009.

Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday for NASA KSC employees. Deadlines are 9 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. E-mail news to anita.l.barret@nasa.gov. For questions or information, e-mail or call 867-2815. You can also find PDF editions of *Countdown* on the Web at: http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/news/countdown/countdown_toc.html.